



Quarterly Mailing

to Presbyterian Women Leadership

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October 2010–January 2011

Hispanic/Latina Presbyterian Women

Hispanic/Latina Presbyterian Women part of family event in San Antonio

A Family and Call with Purpose

By Florence Vargas

Gathered around the theme "A Family and Call with Purpose," almost 400 women, men, youth and children attended the National Hispanic/Latino Presbyterian Event held July 23–25, 2010, at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. Of the participants, more than half were women. The Sixth National *Encuentro* of Hispanic/Latina Presbyterian Women (HLPW) was embedded in the national event.

The vision for this event was "a national event where the Hispanic/Latino Presbyterian family celebrates its identity, asking God to transform us so that we can transform our church and society." The event celebrated family. Vibrant singing, music, flag waving, liturgical dances, youth-led energizers and children's participation enhanced this celebration. The Bible study written by Marissa Galván-Valle focused on the concept of church family and the Hispanic/Latino family.

The program was carried out by pairs of presenters. Opening worship was led by Renato Alvarez and Florence Vargas, followed by the plenary presentation, given by Magdalena Garcia and Joel Gajardo; the Bible study was taught by Marissa Galván-Valle and Rosa Blanca González, and Sunday's sermon was preached by Lis Valle and José L. Casal.

Guest speakers raised prophetic voices on many issues. Workshops were led by lay and ordained leaders, both women and men, of the Hispanic/Latino community. Julia Thorne, manager of immigration issues in the PC(USA) Office of the General Assembly, led two forums that were highlights of the event: *Practicing the Prophetic Voice in the Church* and *Change in America, Hope for a New Immigration Reality*.

The important topic of immigration was addressed in various ways at this event. It was discussed in forums, workshops and in the main speakers' presentations. *Do I look undocumented to you?* t-shirts were seen all over the campus, in solidarity with immigrants and to highlight this important issue.

On Saturday afternoon Hispanic/Latina Presbyterian Women held their Business Meeting, led by HLPW moderator Cecilia Casal. Revised bylaws were approved. Two important revisions to the bylaws are: cluster leaders (*enlaces voluntarias*) are to be selected from each synod and/or area to serve as links to HLPW, and the Hispanic representative on the CCT is now a member of the HLPW coordinating team. Another agreement is that regional *Encuentros* are to be held within the next two years.

The new coordinating team was elected, and later installed during the evening program. The installation ceremony was based on water, baptism and service.



Installation service

Members of the new coordinating team are:

- Florence Vargas, Synod of Puerto Rico, moderator
- Letty Heredia, Synod of the Northeast, vice moderator
- Clelia Moke, Synod of Southern California/Hawaii, secretary/historian
- Ruth Roman-Meza, Synod of the Sun, treasurer
- Judyt Bermudez, Synod of the South Atlantic, spiritual coordinator
- Yolanda Hernandez, Synod of the South Atlantic, volunteer advisor

This historic event ended with an inspiring Communion service on Sunday morning in which many women and some men dressed in white, in silent solidarity with *Las Damas de Blanco* (Ladies in White, a movement opposing jailing political dissidents in Cuba), expressing the urgent need for justice everywhere.

Inside This Issue

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Please note: The next issue of the PW Quarterly Mailing newsletter will be mailed in mid-January. We are able, on a limited basis, to publish news, notices of events and best practices from PWC, PWP and PWS groups, as space allows. The copy deadline for the January issue is November 30. Items will be edited for clarity and length. They should be emailed to yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org, cc: ann.ferguson@pcusa.org.

Don't miss your 2012 Churchwide Gathering fan and instructions on how to make more! See inside!

Women of the Reformation tour takes PW back to roots

By Mary Jorgensen

On September 1, 12 women (10 participants and two guides) gathered together in Geneva, Switzerland, to begin a nine-day study of the Protestant Reformation and the women who actively participated in the Reformation.

The group enjoyed an evening together in Geneva before traveling by train to the Provence region of France where many French Huguenots (Protestants) lived their faith during the Reformation and afterward when they faced persecution.

The group visited the Tour du Constance, a fortress in Aigues Mortes, where Huguenot women were held for refusing to renounce their faith. The group worshipped with nearly 15,000 members of the Reformed Church of France at their annual Assemble' de Desert, commemorating the secret worship services their ancestors shared. The women were also welcomed by the Sisters of Pomeyrol, a Protestant convent in St. Etienne that was begun by a faithful member of the French resistance. Later they shared a morning with CIMADE, a Reformed church outreach movement started as a group

aiding displaced war victims and now serves the large immigrant community in France.

Between their touring and traveling, the women were treated to an afternoon on the Mediterranean Sea and the delicious food offered by the conference center where they stayed. They also enjoyed morning shopping in the open air market in Sommiere, where they could purchase Provence lavender and regional cheeses and olives.

Upon their return to Geneva, the women walked and walked and walked their way through the streets of the city as they learned the significance of Geneva to the Protestant Reformation and the role played by John Calvin and Marie Dentière. They visited the Reformation Wall and museum, Sainte Pierre Cathedral and the excavation site beneath the Cathedral.

While in Geneva, the women also shared in morning worship at the Ecumenical Center in Geneva with staff members of the World Council of Churches. Following worship and a tour of the facilities, the women were



The group in front of the Reformation Wall in Geneva

briefed on the WCC's history and work, especially as they serve to alleviate violence against women through education and awareness.

Following a farewell dinner, the women departed, vowing to share pictures and keep in touch.

The tour was the first tour in PW's new Transformation in Partnership (TRIP) Program. For more information about this and other trips, visit the website at www.presbyterianwomen.org and click on Mission Matters. For information about the 2011 Women of the Reformation tour, see page 3 of this newsletter.

Searching Sarahs

CCT's Search Committee seeks qualified candidates for the 2012-2015 Churchwide team

By Esperanza Guajardo

As "Searching Sarahs" we continue to seek your endorsements of women who have leadership experience in PW, can work effectively on a team, who can give much time and energy for Presbyterian Women, who are open to growth and change, and who understand and uphold our PW Purpose.

Please prayerfully ponder this request. Take the the time

to consider the women with whom you work, those women with special talents and leadership abilities. Please send your recommendations to the Search Committee member in your region using the endorsement form you can download from the PW website, www.presbyterianwomen.org.

Remember our deadline for receiving these forms is November 1, 2010.

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Mission Relationships

Project Homecoming Mission Trip, New Orleans January 23–29, 2011

Make plans to join a team of up to 20 Presbyterian Women rebuilding Olive Tree Village, in cooperation with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. The registration cost per person is \$40 per day, which will include accommodations, meals and local transportation in New Orleans. Travel expenses to New Orleans are not included.

In addition to helping with the rebuilding work in the Village, each team will be asked to help with cooking, keeping the village clean and leading evening reflection time.

For more information, contact Alice Wyatt, CCT vice moderator for mission (alicefwyatt@aol.com); Martha Knichel, chair of the CCT Mission Relationships Committee (mjknichel@aol.com); or Kathy Reeves, PW program associate for mission (katharine.reeves@pcusa.org).

Women of the Reformation Tour, August 30–September 8

Travel to Geneva, Switzerland and Southern France to learn about Presbyterian faith heritage from the sixteenth-century Reformation, reflecting especially on the role of women, and join congregations of the Reformed Church of France at their annual Assemblée du Désert, Sunday, September 4. (This tour follows the same itinerary as the tour described on page 2.)

The cost of the tour per person is \$1,500, including shared accommodations, ground transportation, all meals and sightseeing. International airfare is not included. The registration deadline is May 15, 2011.

For more information, contact Kathy Reeves at katharine.reeves@pcusa.org.

PW Mission Matters

Congo report, slide presentation available on PW website

In the last QM newsletter, there was a short report of PW's trip to Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in March. Yvonne Hileman, who was on that trip, attended the Congo Mission Network meeting in September, where PW was asked to present an update on its work in DRC. Members were given a summary of grants and other assistance to projects in DRC. Not counting Mission Pledge support for World Mission, PW has contributed over \$1.2 million to projects in the DRC over the last 20 years. Yvonne showed slides from March and told network members that PW needs churchwide participation in the Mission Pledge and Offerings to do the work it does in DRC.

For the full report of the March 2010 trip, go to www.presbyterianwomen.org and click on Mission Matters or type "PW Partners in Congo" in the search box.

PC(USA) Partners

Mobile health van finds new mission in West Virginia

On September 28, the National Health Ministries' mobile health van, which was funded by a 2004 Birthday Offering grant from Presbyterian Women, was transferred to the West Virginia Council of Churches. Bill Somplatsky-Jarman, director of the Mission Responsibility Through Investment office, says "We are very excited about this move, and how well it matches the original goal of reaching communities with underserved health needs." There will be an official hand-off during the West Virginia Council of Churches annual assembly October 17–18 in Charleston. Watch for the full story in *Horizons* magazine. To subscribe, call toll-free 866/802-3635.

Churchwide Coordinating Team

Highlights from Churchwide Coordinating Team meeting in Kissimmee, Florida, September 27–October 1

- The meeting followed 2012 Gathering planning and the triennial national leadership training event.
- CCT members visited Beth-El Farm Worker Ministry, Inc., in Wimauma, Florida. Beth-El was a recipient of a 2007 Birthday Offering grant and will be a mission focus for the 2012 Churchwide Gathering.
- The budget and the policies for the Gathering were passed by the CCT. Early registration will be \$440, late registration will be \$480. A Gathering promotional packet will be included in the January 2011 Quarterly Mailing.
- The CCT voted to add a \$100,000 line item to the PW program budget for 2010–2011 to support two mission coworker positions in partnership with Presbyterian World Mission in Mexico (women's leadership development), and Ukraine (project and twinning coordinator). Creating a line item avoids the problem of designating funds. These positions will be supported as funds allow.
- A task group has been assigned to work on a statement that will be sent to the General Assembly Mission Council and PW moderators at all levels saying PW recognizes that the PC(USA) organizational structure is a focus of national discussion and wishes to affirm that the current structure, including the synod level, is valued and viable within PW.
- The CCT voted to expend the funds to cover the budget deficit for the RECONCILE peacebuilders' conference in Akobo, Sudan, for Nuer and Murle women. Synod representatives Marilyn Collins and Janice Takeda will be attending the conference on behalf of PW. Sudan is an emphasis for this triennium.
- A mission trip to New Orleans is scheduled for January 2011, to continue PW involvement in rebuilding New Orleans. See "Project Homecoming," previous column, for additional details.

Justice and Peace

Justice and Peace Links: Sign up today!

The Justice and Peace Committee is preparing to re-launch *Justice and Peace Links*! Each issue of *Justice and Peace Links* will focus on an issue of concern to Presbyterian Women, and will include stories from those affected by and/or advocating for that issue. A scripture passage, study questions, and a new "Get to Meddlin" section, with concrete ideas for taking action, will make this a valuable resource for your circle. If you would like to receive email notifications when a new issue of *Justice and Peace Links* comes out, please send an email to pw_pcusa@pcusa.org with "Justice and Peace Links" in the subject line. And keep checking <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/pw/justice/> for new issues!

Fistula awareness curriculum from NCC

Every 90 seconds a woman dies in childbirth or from childbirth-related causes. Put your faith into action on global maternal health with the *Fistula Stories* curriculum from Women's Ministries, National Council of Churches. The curriculum is available for free download at www.fistulastories.org. Meagan Manus, part-time staff to the Justice and Peace Committee, has been working on this project for two years. She says, "This is an important issue that needs more publicity/awareness! Presbyterian women can help."

Three Birthday Offering grant recipients chosen for 2011; all are building foundations

"For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ."

This scripture from 1 Corinthians 3:11 describes the theme of the projects chosen for the 2011 Birthday Offering grants.

Begun in 1922 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary in the PCUS, the offering grants are intended to be large enough to make a significant impact. They have enabled a long succession of new and innovative mission projects throughout the world.

The Creative Ministries Offering Committee met in Louisville, Kentucky, in August, to choose recipients for the 2011 Offering. They chose three projects, all of which involve building or renovation, thus laying a foundation for the work of the projects involved.

Menaul School, an ecumenical, multicultural environment in Albuquerque, will refurbish an existing dormitory to reestablish a residential program for international and domestic students. The school also will purchase a van for student transportation. A historically Presbyterian racial ethnic institution, Menaul School exists to provide students from all backgrounds an excellent college preparatory education.

The Women and Children Succeeding program (WACS) in Anderson, South Carolina, will renovate a cottage to be used as a training center and for centralized staff offices. WACS provides assistance to people in need while guiding them toward independent function within their own resources. The grant will allow WACS to strengthen the existing program and improve the current participant's accessibility to the program's resources.

In Sudan, "Bring Peace Now" will strive to bring transformational education to Jonglei State and South Sudan. The

award will build a dormitory, support training and help coordinate the translating and publishing of illustrated children's books. One of the goals of the program is to reduce illiteracy by providing educational opportunities that facilitate healing, bring about change in cultural attitudes and behavior, and foster empowerment of women.

2010 Offering

The 2010 Birthday Offering recipients have been awarded their first installments. The Kindergarten and Childcare Center Primary School Development in Kirkuk, Iraq, was sent \$200,000 to expand their facility and add a primary school. Peace Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky, was sent \$100,000 for their R.I.S.E. (Reach-Improve-Strengthen-Empower) Project. The project provides services specifically to children, youth, adult and families identified as at-risk or in need of support during a transitional period.

Both projects will receive the second installment of their awards in the spring of 2011. Our ability to fully disburse awards to recipients depends on the grace and generosity of those who contribute to the Birthday Offering. Presbyterian Women in congregations, presbyteries and synods are encouraged to promote and support giving to the Birthday Offering.

Do you need ideas for promoting the Birthday Offering in your church? Contact Cindy Goodman, 888-728-7228, ext. 5387; cindy.goodman@pcusa.org. Promotional materials for the offering may be ordered after January 1 from Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS), 800/524-2612.

Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org and click on the Giving and Funding link to learn more.



Antiracism Committee

The Belhar Confession approved for inclusion

The 219th General Assembly (2010) approved the inclusion of the Confession of Belhar in the *Book of Confessions* and that the amendment be sent to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes by July 2011. Also, the Office of Theology and Worship has been directed to create a fully inclusive language version of the Belhar Confession for the web similar to the inclusive language version of the Confession of 1967. The 216th General Assembly (2006) commended the Belhar Confession to the church for reflection, study and response as a means of deepening the commitment of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to dealing with racism and a means of strengthening its unity. The 218th General Assembly (2008) began the process for amending the Book of Confessions by adding to it the Belhar Confession.

If you haven't been involved in any study or discussion groups of this Confession, it can be downloaded and the three pages easily printed from www.pcusa.org/resource/belhar-confession/. The more lengthy study guide also can be downloaded from www.pcusa.org/resource/belhar-confession-study-guide/ or they can both be located through <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/theologyandworship/confession>.

Churchwide Coordinating Team

Meet the new synod reps, CCT class of 2013 (and 2012)

Five new synod representatives assumed their duties on the Churchwide Coordinating Team in July, replacing those whose terms were up this summer. Two of those, Mary Martin, Synod of the South Atlantic (mary.martin@nsn.com), and Susan Skoglund, Synod of Southern California/Hawaii (skoglunds@aol.com) were introduced in the last newsletter.

Please note: Mary's email is mary.martin@nsn.com, **not** mary.martin@msn.com, as reported in the last newsletter.

This issue, we are pleased to introduce Heather Sigler, Synod of the Trinity (r_sigler270@comcast.net); Muriel Stephens, Synod of Mid-America (murstep6@aol.com); Ana Camila Vasquez, Synod of Puerto Rico (camila48@onlinkpr.net); and Shirley Novak, Synod of Alaska/Northwest (jsnovak@mtaonline.net).

Shirley is filling a class of 2012 spot.



Muriel Stephens



Heather Sigler



Ana Vasquez



Shirley Novak

Do you read *Horizons*, the only magazine devoted exclusively to the faith concerns of Presbyterian women? Call 866/302-3635 to subscribe!

Takin' It to the Congregations training event

By Martha Pool

Participants from all sixteen synods attended the "Takin' It to the Congregations" national PW leadership training event September 24–26 in Orlando, Florida.

With congregations as their focus, participants were introduced to a variety of tools that PW groups can use to assess their current situation, discover why programs may no longer be working, explore new possibilities to engage more women, and identify components of their organization that need change or transformation.

While some material was presented in lecture style, many times interactive exercises were used, followed by questions that applied to participants' own congregation's context. Participants were urged to modify the learning as needed.

Before leaving this event, participants had numerous opportunities to connect with each other, as well as work with those from their own synods to develop plans to take the training back to their congregations. The enthusiasm was contagious.

If your congregation would like to receive help in assessing, planning, evaluating and organizing, contact your PW synod moderator who will be able to connect you with one of the participants of this training.

Celebration Giving/Funds Development

Celebration Giving representative training set

Training for Celebration Giving representatives will take place via webinar on Tuesday, November 16. There will be two sessions, one held at 2 PM EST and one held at 7 PM EST. To register, call Jen Lenard-Benson at 888/728-7228, ext. 5308, or email jen.lenard-benson@pcusa.org.

Celebration Giving Representative (CGR) is a new position developed for the leadership teams of Presbyterian Women at all levels. This position is designed to interpret the giving opportunities of Presbyterian Women and encourage participation in Celebration Giving.

The Celebration Giving representative in the presbytery will

- devise ways to encourage giving;
- develop presentations and displays for PW gatherings and training events related to Celebration Giving programs;
- actively seek opportunities to educate PW supporters about financial needs;
- identify CGRs in each congregation and work with them on a continued basis; and
- educate moderators, treasurers and other CGRs.

Celebration Giving—Mission the PW Way

PWPs and PWCs are encouraged to do workshops on Celebration Giving and/or training for Celebration Giving representatives during their fall and spring gatherings. Catrelia Hunter, of the Funds Development Committee, reports that Salem PWP had two women present a session in September called "Celebration Giving—Mission the PW Way."

In addition to participating in the webinar in November, you can download a training module from PW's web pages; click on Giving and Funding at www.presbyterianwomen.org.

Sisters Stand and Walk Together active in four synods

Sisters Stand and Walk Together (SSWT), a leadership program created by Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast (PWSNE), is designed to provide immigrant women with the skills needed to assume leadership positions in Presbyterian Women and in their churches.

This three-year program, now being presented in four synods, teaches women how to organize an agenda and run a meeting, how to plan and present workshops and programs, how to lead worship, how to lead a Bible study, as well as how to resolve conflict, build confidence and be empowered to become leaders. It creates an "I Can Do It" attitude while women are learning about each other. An overview of the *Book of Order* gives them the opportunity to become leaders in their own churches.

In the PWSNE, now completing its second class, women from the first class are serving on the Churchwide Coordinating Team (CCT), chairing a CCT committee, serving as PWS treasurer, serving as PWS vice moderator, moderating the National Korean PW, and served as leadership trainer for the New Jersey Presbytery Partnership Group. They are leaders in their presbytery and congregations' PWs, also. Several are serving as elders and deacons in their churches. The members of the first class also serve as the planning team and leaders of many workshops for the second class of women.

For additional information, email unzu.lee@pcusa.org.

PW in the Synods and Presbyteries

Women encourage women in Des Moines Presbytery

Linda O'Connell, moderator of Des Moines Presbytery, tells us that the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team of Des Moines Presbytery has been meeting at Windsor Presbyterian Church over the last couple of years. They chose to do this to encourage the women of that church. Windsor Church has recently gone through a troubled time when over half of their congregation and their pastor withdrew from the PC(USA) and started worshipping elsewhere. They are happy to report that now they have a new female pastor, Sharmaine King, who is serving as clergywoman representative on the PWPCT.

—LaDonna Fay
SLAP representative to CCT

Synod of the Northeast holds regional gatherings

The PW Synod of the Northeast CT decided to have regional synod events this year. We have what is called PPGs (Presbyterian Partnership Groups). There are five. Some have already been held. The New England PPG (Boston, Northern New England and Southern New England) was held October 23 in Worcester, Massachusetts. All five PPGs used the same theme, but we interpreted it differently. The overall theme was "Shall we gather by the river." The New England PPG planned a multicultural celebration at its gathering to avoid conflict with the Hispanic/Latino Presbyterian Family Event in July. PW in the Synod of the Northeast will have its synod event in July 2011.

—Judy Cunningham, PWCT
Leadership Coordinator
Southern New England Presbytery

Calling all Gathering promoters! Send skits, other ideas

In our last newsletter we asked for *Horizons* skits from our readers. Now we need clever ideas to promote the 2012 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women—skits, poems, cheers, songs, bulletin board ideas, art projects, workshops, games, hospitality gifts, ice breaker ideas, apparel amendments, videos, whatever! Just make sure they are your ideas, not copyrighted (keep us out of trouble!). Send your submissions to Carissa Herold, 100 Witherspoon St., Rm. 3063, Louisville, KY 40202-1396, or email carissa.herold@pcusa.org!

Free postcards enable you to extend personal invitation

Has an unexpected invitation ever changed your life? If so, you know firsthand the power of a simple “Why don’t you join us . . . ?” or “Could you . . . ?” or “Have you considered . . . ?” A simple question can radically transform someone’s life for the better! Want to give it a try?

With the help of a simple pack of 2012 Churchwide Gathering postcards (10 in a pack), you can see for yourself how transformative a personal invitation can be! Order item CWG12027 from PDS (800/524-2612; free plus shipping; available January 2011), then personally invite 10 others to consider attending this once-every-three-year event!!! The first side of the card features the 2012 Churchwide Gathering logo, the dates (July 18–22, 2012) and place (Orlando!) of the Gathering. Side two is yours to complete! A first-class postage stamp, a few words, and an address is all you will need to show kind regard to a friend or soon-to-be friend!

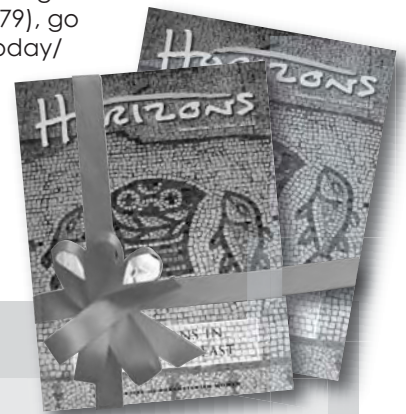
Subscription affliction?

Anyone who has visited the PC(USA) web pages over the summer knows that the website has undergone significant transformation. Such a big change can bring a challenge or two. For example, if, over the summer, you subscribed to *Horizons* magazine and haven’t received your copy, well, double-check your credit card statement because, chances are, your subscription didn’t “take.” You will need to re-subscribe. (The information you entered is safe; no worries, as it is all encrypted!) To begin again (and please do!), just call toll-free 806/802-3635, or enter your subscription online at the new PW site—www.presbyterianwomen.org—just click on *Horizons*.

Speaking of new and moved websites . . .

Please make a note of the new web address for the PW website: www.presbyterianwomen.org. The new *Horizons* address is http://horizons.pcusa.org.

Finally, if you are looking for the *Presbyterians Today* article, “The End of the World” by Eugene March, referenced in the *Revelation* Bible study (p. 79), go to http://archive.pcusa.org/today/believe/believe.htm, instead of using the address in the Bible study. Since the PC(USA) website was moved, the address printed in the study no longer works.



Buy One Christmas Gift, Get One Free!

Are you looking for a terrific holiday gift to give to the Presbyterian women in your life? If so, consider giving a *Horizons* gift subscription this holiday season!

With this special offer (and for a very limited time only), you can now give one gift subscription to *Horizons* magazine and get one FREE! For just \$24.95, you can give two gifts for the price of one. This offer is valid through January 30, 2011.

Horizons magazine provides information, inspiration and education from the perspectives of women who are committed to Christ, the church and faithful discipleship. *Horizons* brings issues dealing with church and family, mission of and the challenges of culture and society to its readers. Interviews, feature articles, Bible study resources and departments offer insight on day-to-day concerns of the church and individual Christians.

YES! Send my *Horizons* Christmas gift subscription (one year/six issues plus the Bible study, mailed in March) to the people listed below. I understand that when I buy one gift for \$24.95, I’ll get the second one FREE.

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Supporting the publishing mission of Presbyterian Women, one Horizons reader at a time!

Tucked into the new Horizons subscription card and renewal letter is an opportunity to give a gift over and above the subscription price to lend support to the publishing mission of Presbyterian Women. The ongoing response just confirms what everyone in the church already knows: Presbyterian women—and Horizons readers, in particular—never miss an opportunity to care much and give generously!

A special thank-you to the following readers who have responded generously to support so much! This list reflects

donations processed from July 1, 2010 through August 31, 2010 while *subscribing, renewing, or gifting a subscription*. Many Presbyterian women have contributed outside the subscription program and they are thanked, too, but are not listed below. (You may donate each time you renew, subscribe or give a gift subscription. You also may send a separate tax-deductible gift, "Donation to publishing mission" in the memo line, to Horizons/Presbyterian Women, PO Box 421, Congers, NY 10920.)

- | | | | | |
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Mission Relationships

CCT reps head to Sudan for RECONCILE meeting

Voting representatives at the 2009 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women chose Sudan as a mission focus for the 2009–2012 triennium. Presbyterian Women is keeping this focus by sending two members of the Churchwide Coordinating Team to attend the RECONCILE Conference in Akobo, Sudan, in October 2010. They are Marilyn Collins, Mission Relationship Committee, and Janice Takeda, of the Justice and Peace Committee.

RECONCILE was established in March 2004 and is related to the Sudan Council of Churches. These Sudanese churches aim to help victims recover from the trauma associated with the 25-year civil war in Sudan. They also help to lead a process of reconciliation that will unite not only the Christians in south Sudan but other faith groups as well. RECONCILE was a recipient of a Thank Offering grant in 2009.

Watch for a report on Marilyn and Janice's travels to Sudan in the next quarterly newsletter.

Nurture Committee

Health and Holiness program coming

Watch for the Health and Holiness Fitness Program: An opportunity for Bible study, prayer and physical workout to be on the PW website in time for those New Year's resolutions.

Tucked into this newsletter you will find a template for 2012 Gathering Save-the-Date cards. Just photocopy on your favorite paper and voila! they are ready to share or tuck into your wallet, to use as a bookmark, or wallpaper the church bulletin board!

PC(USA) Connections

Give a gift with spirit this advent season!

Give a gift with spirit this advent season. *Reflections: 2011 Devotions for the Present Day*, now available from Congregational Ministries Publishing.

Pause a moment for *Reflections*, a collection of daily inspirations that will awaken your spirit and bring to you a deepened connection with God. These devotions are sure to inspire moments of meditation and celebration of the human spirit, while guiding you through your day.

Beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, these daily devotions take you through the church year. Each daily reading is based on the Cooperative Uniform Lesson Series and is complimented with Scripture, making it the perfect companion to your study of the Bible, including *The Present Word*.

Available at <http://store.pcusa.org> or by calling PDS, 800/524-2612; item 978-1571532121, \$18.95.

Fair Trade Partners

Bring Fair Trade to your group this holiday season!

It's not too late to bring Fair Trade to your congregation this holiday season! Hosting a Partnership Sale is an excellent opportunity to raise funds for your own cause, bring economic and social justice to your church, and provide your congregation with a beautiful selection of gifts that will have a positive impact. By ordering online, you receive 25 percent off products and can use this profit for whatever cause or project you choose. And to make your sale even easier, Partners for Just Trade provides resources about Fair Trade and promotional support to sale coordinators. Visit www.PartnersForJustTrade.org/pb to learn more about how to host a Partnership Sale, or call 314/773-7358. There's no deadline for ordering your products.

Introducing . . .

Presbyterian Women Christmas greeting cards!

Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (*John 10:10b*, NRSV).

This brand-new pack of 20 Christmas cards celebrates our life of purpose together as Presbyterian women and lifts up the work we do in the world as Christ's servants. The sale of these cards continues our tradition of giving, as all proceeds will benefit PW's Mission Pledge, which supports the abundant work of Presbyterian Women and undergirds the work of the denomination. Each card depicts the work we do through the world through the Mission Pledge: Birthday and Thank Offering, Global Exchange, Roma Development Project, and more. There are two each of ten designs in a pack; order item PWR10445 from Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS), 800/524-2612; \$20.



Roma baskets, direct to you from the Ukraine!

As you may remember, the second phase of PW's Roma Development Project is in place and the first shipment of baskets from the Roma women made it to Louisville from the Ukraine for sale back in June. *All of the baskets from that first shipment sold out within just a few weeks!* Expressing our concern about the need for a new shipment for the Christmas season, mission coworker Kathy Angi has graciously extended her hand and will make available to Presbyterian women the following Roma baskets, direct from the Ukraine!

- Trivet or pad for hot dishes
 - 9" round with plain edge—\$8; scalloped edge—\$9
 - 9" x12" oval—\$10
 - 9" x 13" rectangle—\$12
- Bread or fruit bowl
 - 10" round with plain edge—\$15
 - 10" round with scalloped edge—\$16
 - 9" x12" oval, plain edge—\$12; decorative edge—\$13
- Vase shaped basket with V pattern
 - 15" tall—\$12; 18" tall—\$14
- Small cup-shaped baskets
 - 3" diameter, in groups of four—\$9
- Square napkin basket with V opening on one side—\$10
- Carry-all basket with two handles—\$20

We cannot guarantee that every basket ordered will arrive before Christmas, as this is a new mission project and the women making them will be able to complete only a limited number by then, but Kathy thinks that all orders received by November 10 can be made and shipped in time for Christmas.

If you wish to order baskets, contact Kathy Angi directly at angikathy@yahoo.com. Do expect a day's wait for confirmation, as Kathy is in Eastern Europe. Tell her exactly what you wish to order, your name, address (no post office boxes, please) and telephone number. She will ship the baskets to you at the address provided. Kathy will inform the PW office that you have ordered. You will receive an invoice from the PW office that you will pay upon receipt of the basket(s). Shipping from the Ukraine will run approximately \$14 for one to six baskets.



Skits, skits and more skits!

Thank you to Gail Hardy, Barbara Bailey Brown and others for responding to the call to share skits and other creative ideas. These wonderful entries are now available on the *Horizons* web pages (<http://horizons.pcusa.org>). Many, many thanks for your contributions!

Sharing your gifts

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good" (*1 Cor. 12:4-7*).

Each of us has a gift (or two or three!) to share! As a *Horizons* rep, the gifts you have to share are not limited to skits! Should you feel so inspired, we invite you to also share your best practices, clever craft and bulletin board ideas, and ice breakers with other *Horizons* reps. And there is no time limit to sharing! Keep them coming! Send them to Carissa Herold, 100 Wither- spoon St., Rm. 3063, Louisville KY 40202, email carissa.herold@pcusa.org, or share them on *Horizons*' Facebook page!

"...for the common good"

Central to our purpose is "to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study." That's why *Horizons* Bible study and magazine are so important to Presbyterian women: they keep us together on the same page! In this world of change and turmoil, standing behind our Purpose also means supporting our publications; doing so truly is "for the common good" of Presbyterian Women. Few faith-filled periodicals remain that can lift up such themes as human trafficking, the plight of the imprisoned, the welfare of the planet—recent themes in *Horizons* and central to our witness as Presbyterian women. Thank you, *Horizons* reps for the work you do, and all subscribers, for taking a stand for the publishing mission of PW!

New Horizons subscription brochure is in the warehouse!

A brand-new subscription brochure is available! Just ask for item HZN10330 when you call PDS at 800/524-2612. (And no worries if you have a supply of the older cards, HZN-09-330; pricing information remains the same, so they are still valid.)



Hyphens, be gone!

When you order from the online Church Store (formerly, PC(USA) Marketplace) using an item number, you will need to drop the hyphens from the item number to make it work. For example, if you wish to order a set of PW Heritage placemats (each package contains four each of six panels/placemats that, when displayed together, show in timeline format the amazing accomplishments of Presbyterian women from the 1700s through 2009—for a mere \$5 per pack!), order CWG09097 (no hyphens). Easy! Go to <http://store.pcusa.org> and type the item number in the search box at the top right-hand of the screen.

Presbyterian Women's Bylaws

Please note that the bylaws in the *PW Manual*, updated in 2007, are still useful as guidelines for PWC, PWP and PWS. Bylaws approved in 2009 reflect incorporation at the churchwide level, and are not a necessary supplement to the manual.

Save the date for the 2012 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women! July 18–22, 2012, in Orlando, Florida!
Check beginning this fall for updates at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.